

**To:** Press[Press@epa.gov]; MacIntyre, Mark[Macintyre.Mark@epa.gov]  
**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Mon 8/17/2015 3:36:31 PM  
**Subject:** CLOSED Reuters  
[150813PR-OOTSGoldKingMineSpill7.pdf](#)  
[150814PR-OOTSGoldKingMineSpill7-Precautions.pdf](#)

CLOSED

**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 10:35 AM  
**To:** 'steve.gorman@thomsonreuters.com'  
**Subject:** FW: NEWS ADVISORY: Ban on Domestic Well Water Use in the Animas Floodplain  
Lifted By NMED & DOH

Steve,

Here is the information regarding private well in New Mexico.

David

**From:** Turner, Jill, NMENV [mailto:jill.turner@state.nm.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2015 11:46 AM  
**Subject:** NEWS ADVISORY: Ban on Domestic Well Water Use in the Animas Floodplain  
Lifted By NMED & DOH



# **NEWS RELEASE**

August 14, 2015

Contact: A

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## **Ban on Domestic Well Water Use in New Mexico Environment Depart**

**Santa Fe** — Today, the precaution against using domestic well water in the Animas River floodplain (near the Animas River--site of the Gold King Mine spill) was lifted by the New Mexico Environment Department and the Health Department's Environmental Health Protection Agency. All other precautions related to the spill remain in place.

“The only reason we’re in this position today, to lift the ban on domestic well water,” said Environment Secretary Ryan Zinke, “is because of the New Mexico Environment, Health, New Mexico’s Office of the State Auditor, Department of Agriculture, Game and Fish, and Homeland Security, and Environmental Health Protection Agency.”

“Alarming levels of lead, cobalt, cadmium, arsenic, iron, and other metals were evident in the initial pulse of contamination at Cement Mills. Under Governor Martinez’ leadership and Executive Order de-announcing the spill, we mobilized to create and communicate safety precautions for domestic well water use, while we simultaneously worked to collect surface water samples for testing.”

“Due to New Mexico’s rapid response and collaborative

- *For*

Allison Scott Majure, Communications Director

New Mexico Environment Department  
505.827.2855 Office of the Secretary

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